



Country/City

Aotearoa New Zealand / Wellington

University / School

Te Herenga Waka - Victoria University of Wellington / School of Architecture

Academic year

2024

Title of the project

Walk the line

Authors

Michelle Ferreira

Title of the project	Walk the line
Authors	Michelle Ferreira
Title of the course	LAND 312 - Landscape Architecture Design Studio IV
Academic year	2024
Teaching Staff	Victoria Chanse
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Landscape Architecture Programme
University / School	Te Herenga Waka-Victoria University of Wellington / School of Architecture



Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

Cities globally face climate change and increased stormwater challenges. Urban streams and sponge cities are key solutions. Growing cities must tackle stormwater, flooding, and biodiversity loss while integrating nature-based design and local knowledge like Mātauranga Māori (indigenous knowledge). LAND 312/2024 explored the application of a sponge city approach while re-imagining the hydrology of Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington. Students explored buried streams, their catchments, and the influence of policies and community input on design and planning. They mapped and analysed the underground streams, identifying areas of opportunity for design strategies at the macro and micro scales, focusing on climate change resilience and seismic issues. During the design process, students engaged with several organizations that provided a strong technical, social, and cultural foundation for the students' designs. Michelle Ferreira's design *Walk the line*, navigates through the juxtaposition of the conflicting demands of urbanisation and the natural environment. Her design proposes utilizing an indigenous approach as a method to attain this balance. THE LINE follows the course of the Waimapihi awa (stream) and stretches through Aro Valley and Te Aro to Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington harbour. The goal is to enhance hydrological, geological, ecological, and socio-cultural connectivity along the daylighted stream, using the Māori principles of whakapapa and mauri to inform design.

Barcelona International Landscape Biennial

Contact via email:
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Venue:
COAC - Col·legi Oficial d'Arquitectes de Catalunya
Carrer Arcs 1-3, 08002 Barcelona - Spain

TIAKI (to guard) TERRACES
Bio-retention Terraces in the upper reaches of the catchment foster native bio-diversity & provide protection against downstream flooding. It also features pockets for rest & bird watching.

TARUNA (to be connected) STREETS
Cascading Raingarden Streets form the thread connecting the series of unique sites along THE LINE.

THE KAURANGA (crossing place)
A pedestrian bridge crosses over SH1 into the first daylighted stream section on Abel Smith St. The form and planting of the bridge represents an elevated Waimapihi awa, demanding attention from pedestrians and vehicle users alike.

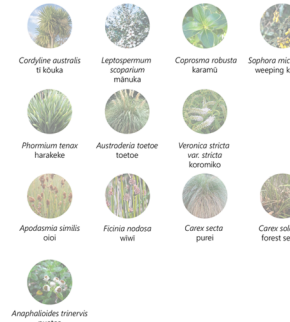
HAPORI (community) PLACE
The second daylighted stream section is next to the Z-station on Vivian St. A space with grass areas next to the Waimapihi awa, ample seating, and skatepark where people can connect to the wider community.

WHAKAPŌTURI (slow down) THOROUGHFARE
The fourth daylighted section is at the lower end of Cuba St. The pedestrian priority section of Cuba St. is extended in this site with the daylighted stream forming the centre-piece with ample steps and seating along its length, providing opportunities to rest and engage.

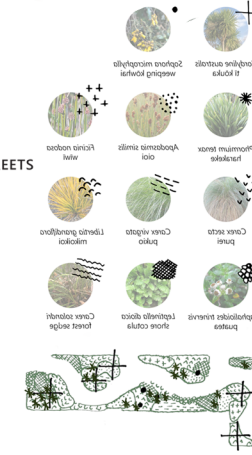
NOA (unrestricted) SQUARE
The third daylighted section is on the corner of Ghuznee & Leeds St. Communities can come together over a meal from food trucks and interact with the stream at a variety of levels including a splash pad (supplied with purified water).

TANGAROA (atua of the sea) TREASURE
The line ends at a constructed estuary. In a sense the site is returned to Tangaroa, restoring the cultural, ecological, and hydrological significance to the meeting place of fresh-and-salt water.

TIAKI TERRACES



TARUNA STREETS



13 350 m²
Increase in Permeability

6
Unique Community Spaces

Reduced Infrastructure Costs

Social Cohesion

1680 m
Raingardens

6
Daylighted Stream Sites

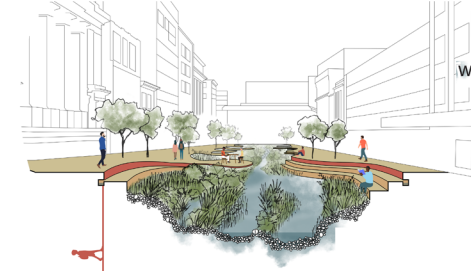
Attract Businesses & People

Increased Ownership

HAPORI PLACE



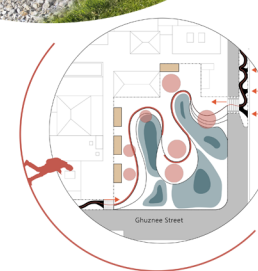
WHAKAPŌTURI THOROUGHFARE



TANGAROA TREASURE



NOA SQUARE



LEGEND: (left & above)

- Stormwater Network
- Open Streams
- Historic Waimapihi Awa
- Intake from Stormwater Network
- Stormwater Connection Invert (or as indicated)
- Under-ground Storage
- Pump Line
- HC - Habitat Connection*
- Bio-retention Terraces
- Cascading Raingarden Streets
- Stream Daylighting
- Wetland
- Constructed Estuary

(*Refer to Treatment Train)

LEGEND: (right)

- Low Water Level
- High Water Level
- Underground Detention Tanks
- Water Movement
- Pump Line
- Stormwater Network Connection
- Habitat Connection
- Overflow
- Raingarden Overflow
- Controlled Flow to Raingarden